

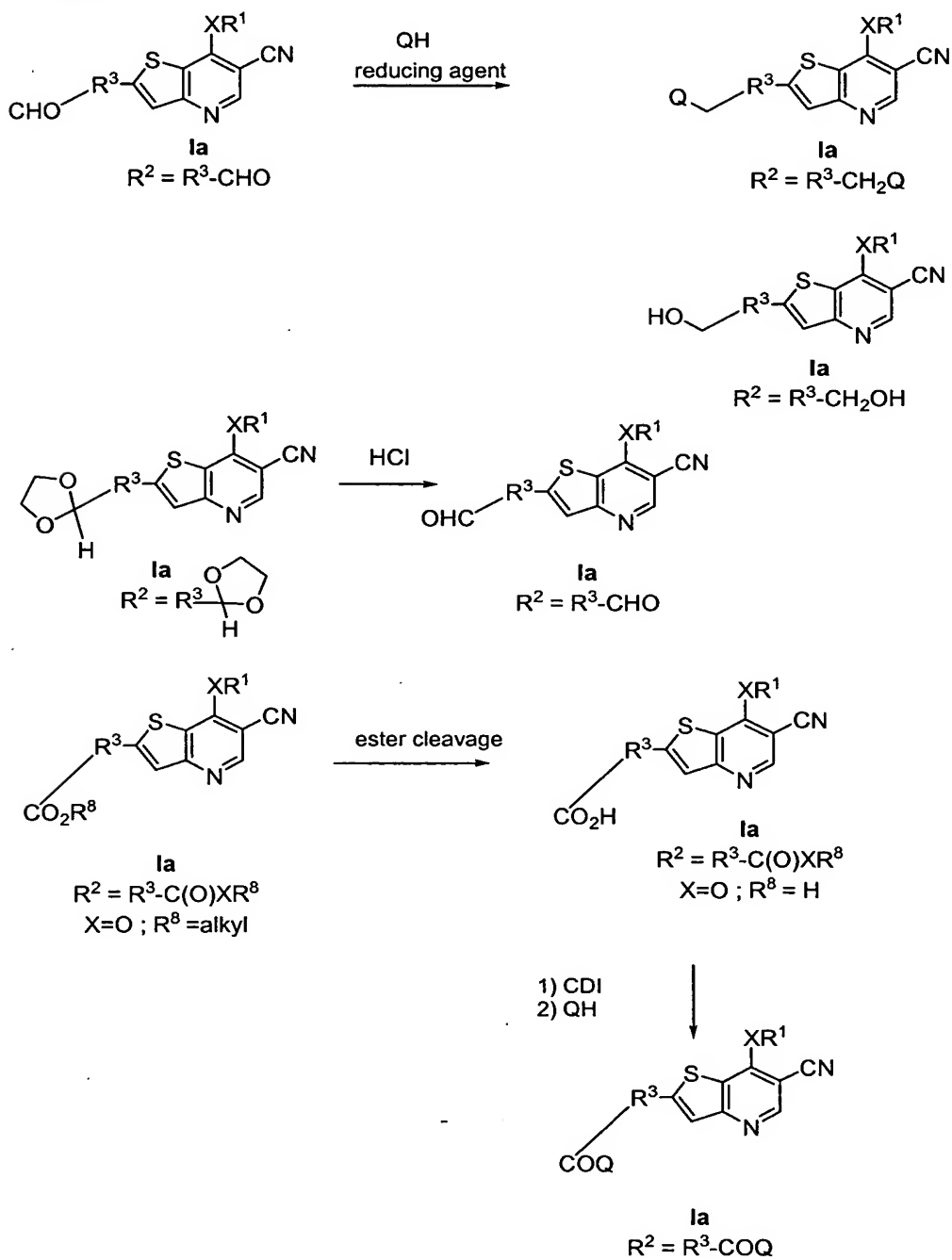
IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 47, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 14 as follows:

Scheme 5 also depicts the preparation of compounds of formula **1a** where the group  $R^2$  is  $R^3(C(R^8)_{27})_q-CO_2H$   $R^3-C(O)XR^8$ , wherein X is O and  $R^8$  is H, and  $R^3(C(R^8)_{27})_q-COQ$  or  $R^3-C(O)Q$  from compounds of formula **1a** where the group  $R^2$  is  $R^3(C(R^8)_{27})_q-CO_2R^4$   $R^3-C(O)XR^8$ , wherein X is O and  $R^8$  is lower alkyl. Compounds Esters of formula **1a** where the group  $R^2$  is  $R^3(C(R^8)_{27})_q-CO_2R^4$   $R^3-C(O)XR^8$ , wherein X is O and  $R^8$  is lower alkyl, are converted to the corresponding acids of formula **1a** where the group  $R^2$  is  $R^3(C(R^8)_{27})_q-CO_2H$  by treatment with aqueous sodium hydroxide in a cosolvent such as ethanol at elevated temperatures. The corresponding amides of formula **1a** where the group  $R^2$  is  $R^3(C(R^8)_{27})_q-Q$   $R^3-C(O)Q$  are prepared by treatment of the acid with N,N-carbonyldiimidazole or alternatively thionyl chloride or the like, followed by the addition of an amine of formula QH.

On page 48, please replace Scheme 5 with the following:

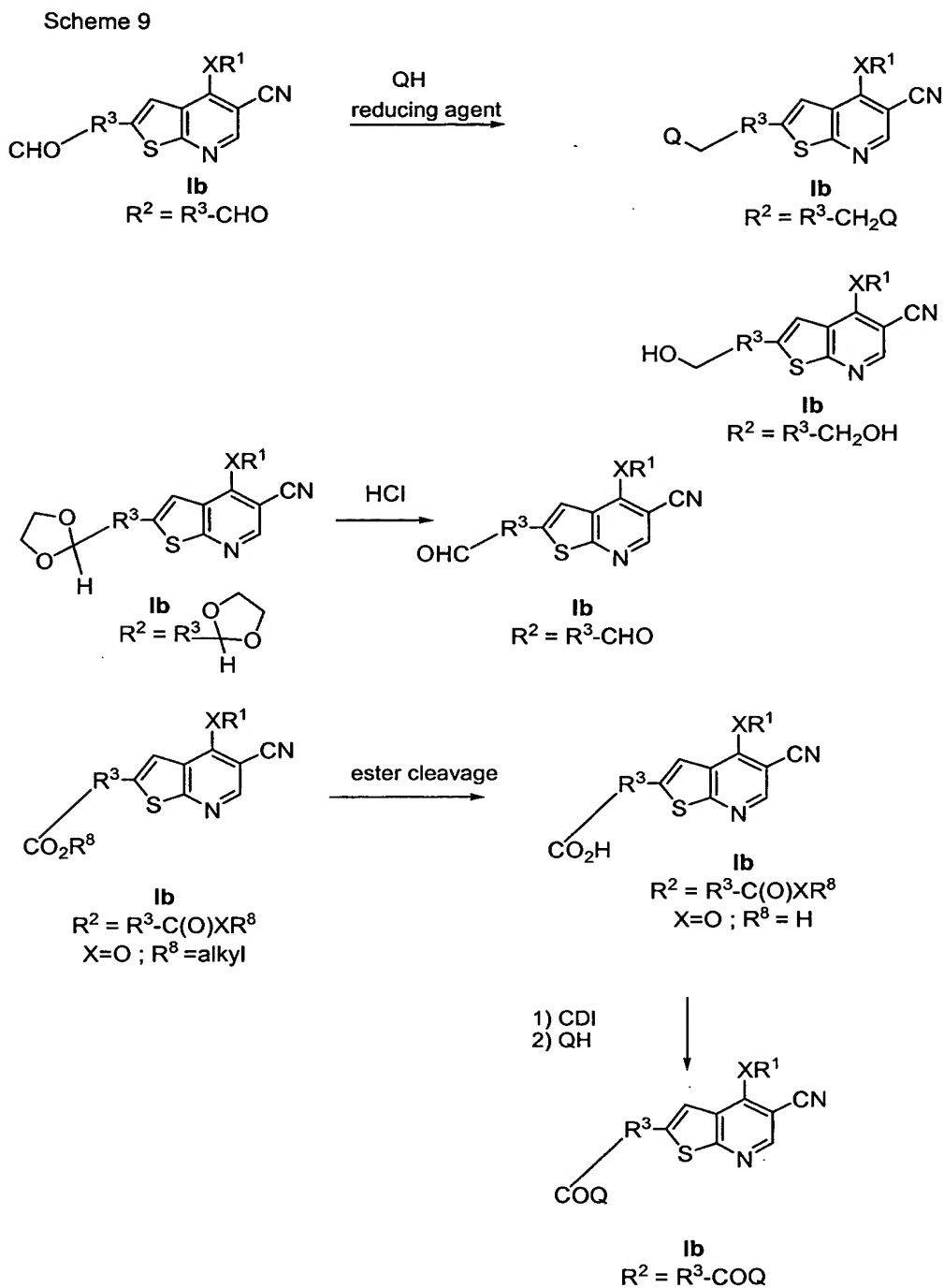
Scheme 5



On page 57, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 13 as follows:

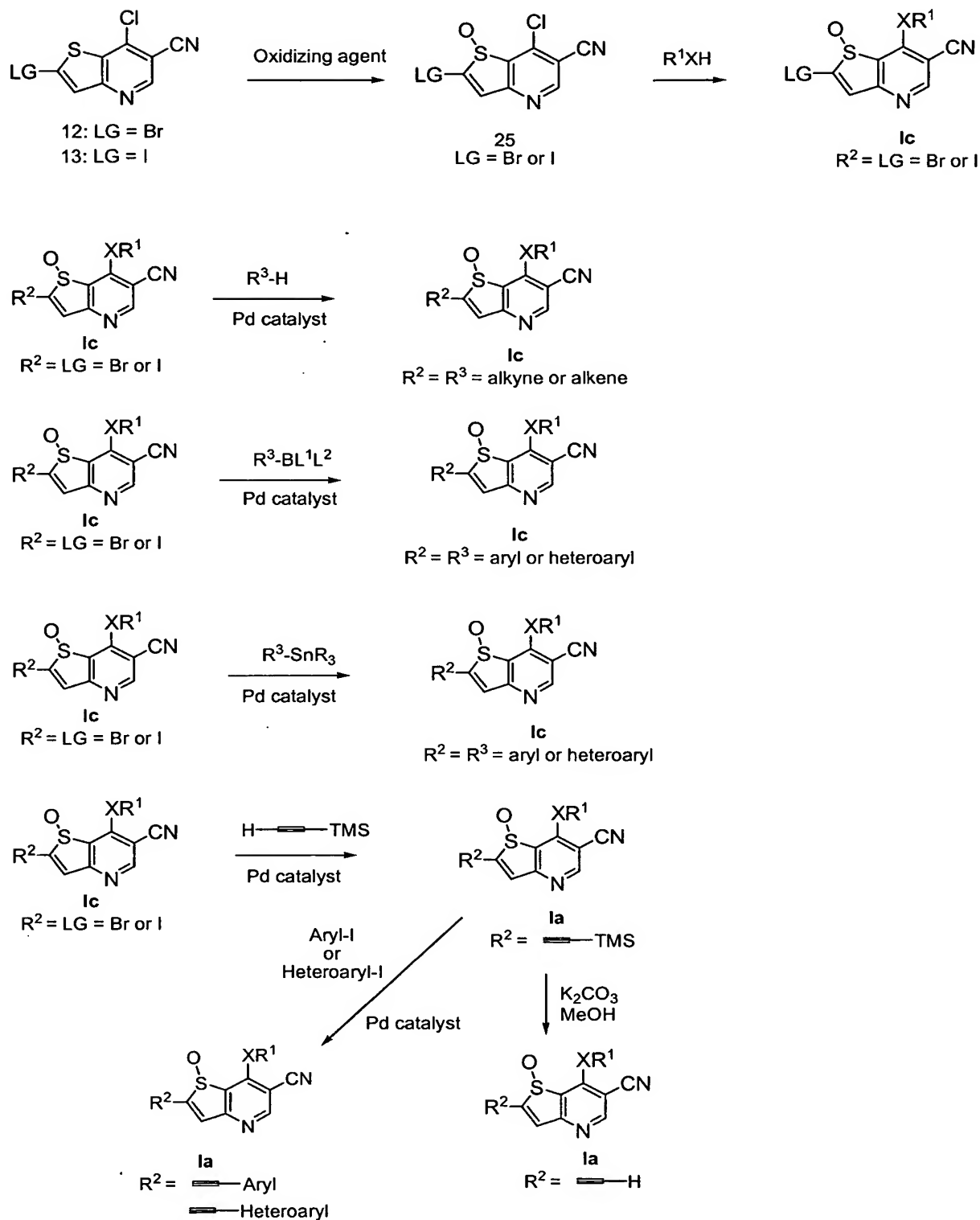
Scheme 9 also depicts the preparation of compounds of formula **1b** where the group  $R^2$  is  $R^3$ -substituted with  $(C(R^8)_{27})_q$ -CO<sub>2</sub>H  $R^3$ -C(O)XR<sup>8</sup>, wherein X is O and R<sup>8</sup> is H, and  $(C(R^8)_{27})_q$ -COQ or  $R^3$ -C(O)Q from compounds of formula **1b** where the group  $R^2$  is  $R^3$  substituted by  $(C(R^8)_{27})_q$ -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>  $R^3$ -C(O)XR<sup>8</sup>, wherein X is O and R<sup>8</sup> is lower alkyl. Compounds Esters of formula **1b** where the group  $R^2$  is  $R^3$ -substituted with  $(C(R^8)_{27})_q$ -CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>  $R^3$ -C(O)XR<sup>8</sup>, wherein X is O and R<sup>8</sup> is lower alkyl, are converted to the corresponding acids of formula **1b** where the group  $R^2$  is  $R^3$ -substituted by  $(C(R^8)_{27})_q$ -CO<sub>2</sub>H by treatment with aqueous sodium hydroxide in a cosolvent such as ethanol at elevated temperatures. The corresponding amides of formula **1b** where the group  $R^2$  is  $R^3$ -substituted with  $(C(R^8)_{27})_q$ -COQ  $R^3$ -C(O)Q are prepared by treatment of the acids with N,N-carbonyldiimidazole or alternatively thionyl chloride or the like, followed by the addition of an amine of formula QH.

On page 58, please replace Scheme 9 with the following:



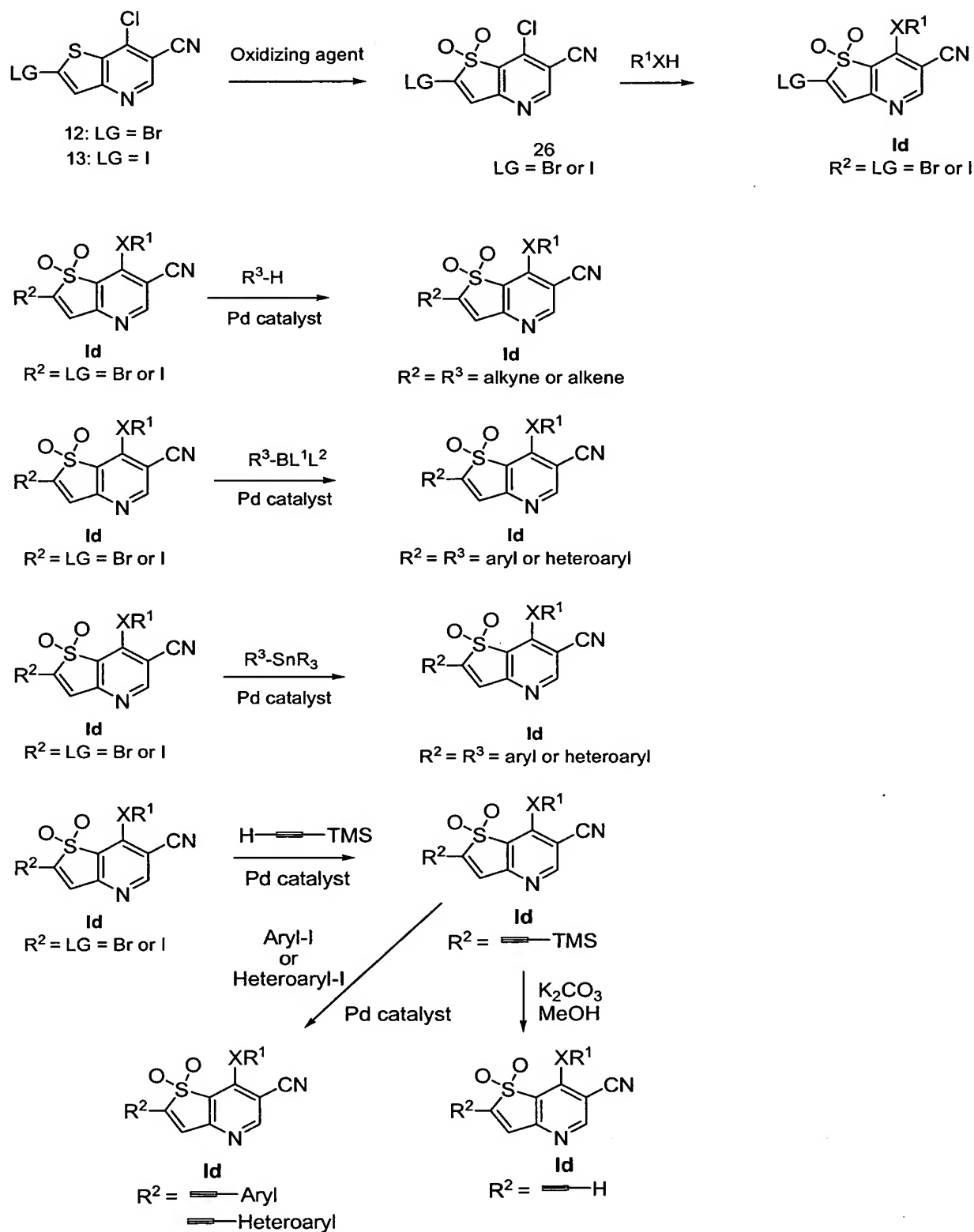
On page 62, please replace Scheme 10 with the following:

Scheme 10



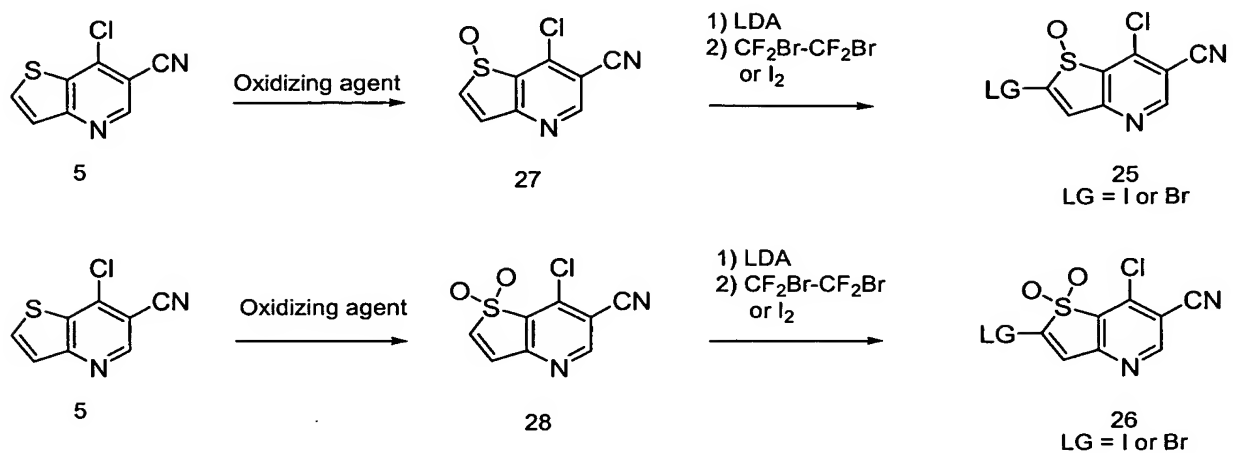
On page 66, please replace Scheme 11 with the following:

Scheme 11



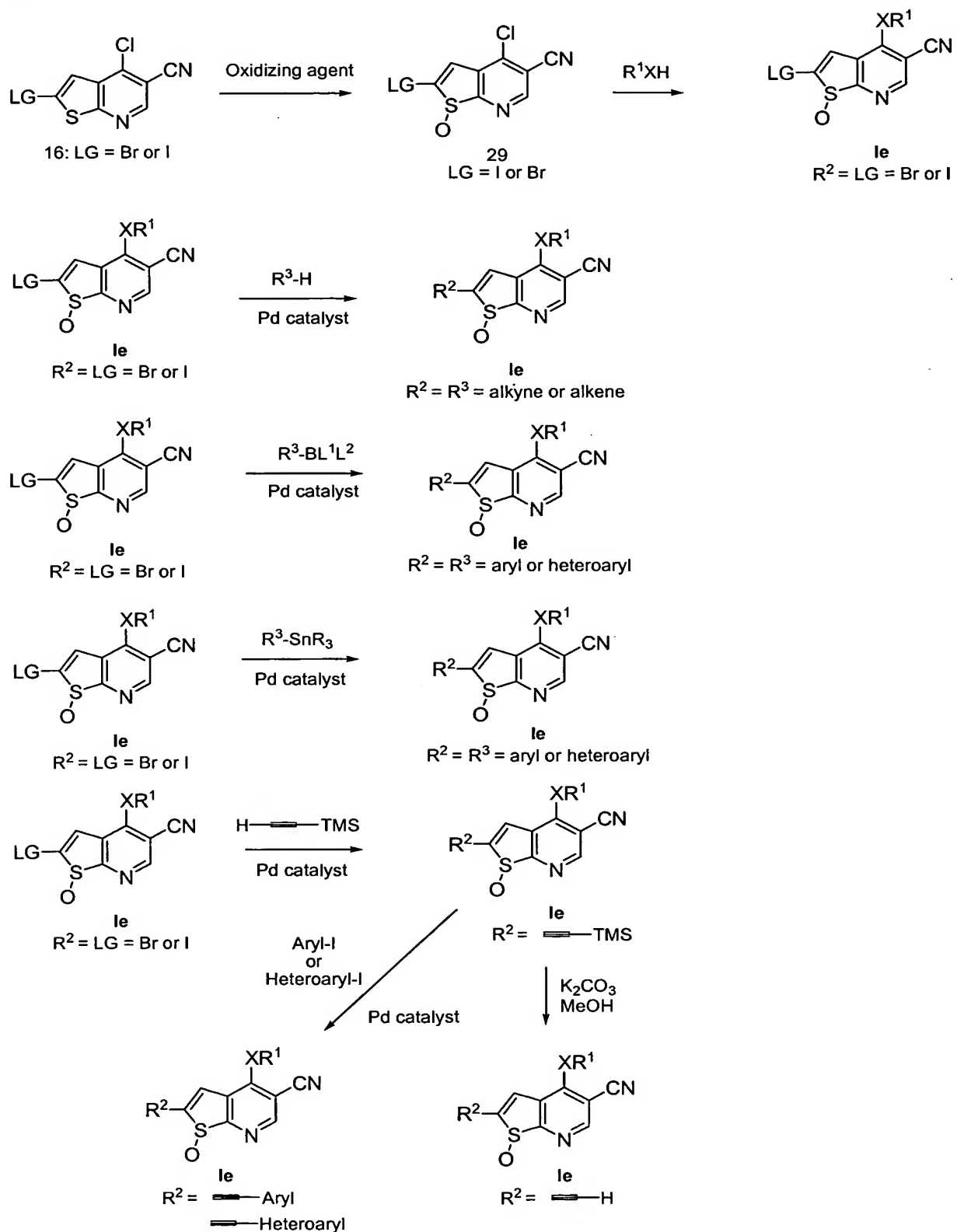
On page 67, please replace Scheme 12 with the following:

Scheme 12



On page 71, please replace Scheme 13 with the following:

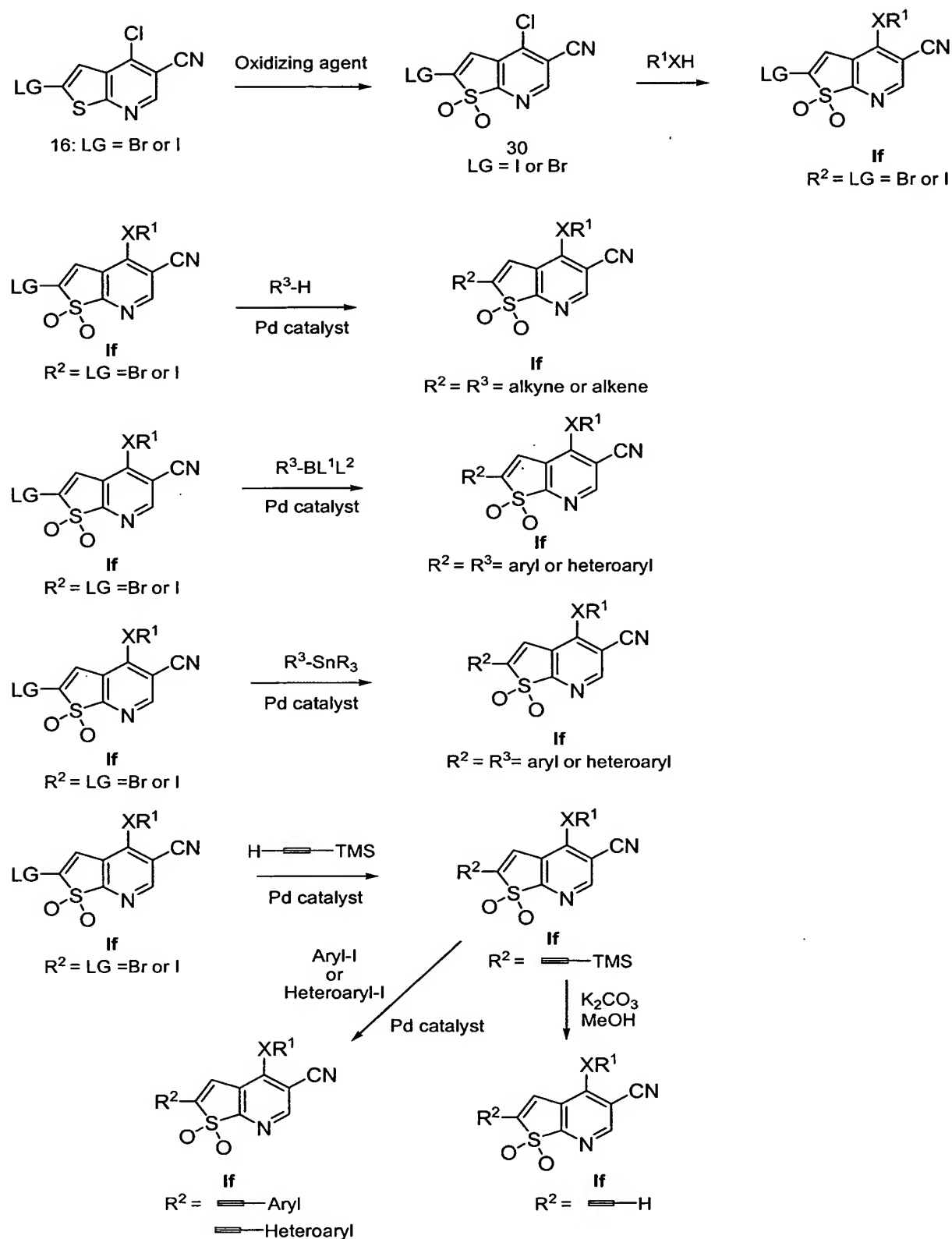
Scheme 13





On page 75, please replace Scheme 14 with the following:

Scheme 14



On page 76, please replace Scheme 15 with the following:

Scheme 15

